



December 23, 2005

## **Florida man is sentenced to 16 years in prison for 6 kilograms of heroin**

A federal judge today sentenced **Jacinto Garcia**, 36, of Pembroke Pines, Florida, to 16 years in federal prison for heroin trafficking. In December 2004 Providence police seized the heroin from a hidden compartment in Garcia's van.

United States Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the sentence, which U.S. District Court Judge William E. Smith imposed today in U.S. District Court, Providence.

In July, Garcia pleaded guilty to possessing with intent to distribute a kilogram or more of heroin. At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Adi Goldstein said that the government could prove that, in December 2004, Providence Police received information that Garcia would be driving a large quantity of heroin from Florida to Rhode Island. On December 18, police stopped Garcia in his van as he exited I-95 at Eddy Street and arrested him for driving with a suspended license. They later found six, one-kilogram bags of heroin in a hydraulically operated compartment under the van's rear seats. Garcia admitted that the heroin was his and said that it was his third trip to Providence transporting heroin.

**Providence Police** investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Goldstein prosecuted it.

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